

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 SAN JO 02512 092343Z
ACTION ARA-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 SS-15 NSCE-00 SAB-02 SP-02
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O 092314Z JUN 78

FM AMEMBASSY SAN JOSE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC NIACT IMMEDIATE 1355

INFO AMEMBASSY BOGOTA IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY CARACAS IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY KINGSTON IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY MEXICO IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY PANAMA IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L SAN JOSE 2512

E.O.11652: GDS

TAGS: OVIP, (CARTER, JIMMY)

SUBJECT: PRESIDENT'S VISIT TO PANAMA: MULTILATERAL MEETINGS

REF: A) STATE 146222, B) SAN JOSE 2444

1. EMBASSY CONSULTED WITH FONMIN CALDERON FOURNIER RE PROPOSED MULTILATERAL MEETINGS. CALDERON STATED THAT PRESIDENT CARAZO WOULD BE PREPARED TO ATTEND JUNE 16 MEETING BUT WOULD NOT BE ABLE TO REMAIN IN PANAMA TO ATTEND JUNE 17 MEETING. HE THOUGHT TOPICS SUGGESTED PARA 6, REF A WOULD BE APPROPRIATE FOR DISCUSSION PROVIDED THAT NO. 2, NORTH/SOUTH ECONOMIC ISSUES WAS BROAD ENOUGH TO INCLUDE TERMS AND FLOWS OF DEVELOPMENTAL ASSISTANCE. IF ONLY ONE TOPIC COULD BE MANAGED IN FIRST MEETING, HE PREFERRED NO. 2. IF TIME PERMITTED DISCUSSION OF TWO TOPICS, HE PREFERRED NO. 1 AND NO. 2. CALDERON HAD NO SUGGESTIONS AS TO HOW PROCESS MIGHT BE MANAGED BUT SEEMED TO THINK THIS WOULD NOT BE A PROBLEM.

2. CALDERON WAS DISAPPOINTED TO LEARN THAT PRESIDENT CARAZO WOULD NOT HAVE OPPORTUNITY FOR BRIEF BILATERAL MEETING WITH PRESIDENT CARTER. HE SAID THAT GOCR HAD BEEN OF THE IMPRESSION THAT THERE
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WOULD BE BILATERALS AND HAD COUNTED ON PRESIDENT CARAZO BEING ABLE TO HAVE SHORT PRIVATE MEETING WITH PRESIDENT CARTER. EVEN THOUGH HE UNDERSTOOD CLEARLY THAT DECISION NOT TO HAVE BILATERALS WAS DUE TO TIGHT SCHEDULE, HE REQUESTED THAT EMBASSY INFORM DEPARTMENT OF PRESIDENT CARAZO'S CONTINUING INTEREST IN A BILATERAL.

3. AFTER CHECKING FURTHER WITH PRESIDENT CARAZO, CALDERON CALLED

EMBASSY TO ADVISE THAT HE AND CARAZO THOUGHT IT STRANGE AND ILLOGICAL TO HAVE A MEETING OF PRESIDENTS WITHOUT BILATERALS. HE STRESSED THAT CARAZO WANTED ONLY 10-15 MINUTES ALONE WITH PRESIDENT CARTER AND PREDICTED THAT CARAZO WOULD BE OFFENDED IF THIS COULD NOT BE ARRANGED. CALDERON ALSO CONFIRMED CARAZO'S ATTENDANCE AT JUNE 16 MULTILATERAL MEETING BUT LINKED THAT TO POSSIBILITY OF A BILATERAL. HE REQUESTED THAT THIS INFORMATION BE CONVEYED TO DEPARTMENT AND THAT EMBASSY ADVISE HIM ASAP OF ANY CHANGE IN US DECISION REGARDING BILATERALS.

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